

MARVEL

LEGACY

THE MIDNIGHT KING RETURNS TO EARTH PART 1

8



**AHMED
WARD**

BLACK ROLT™





is the king of the Inhumans, an off-splinter of humanity imbued with amazing abilities. But these gifts sometimes come with a price: Black Bolt's slightest whisper can shatter mountains. His voice has destroyed many lives, but it has saved countless others.

When the Silent King speaks, the world hears him.

After abdicating the throne, Black Bolt has spent months in an alien prison, thanks to the treachery of his brother, Maximus the Mad. There he was tortured, killed and resurrected over and over again—until he and his fellow prisoners broke free and destroyed their jailer.

But freedom came at a cost. Crusher Creel, A.K.A. the Absorbing Man—a villain to some, and yet a friend to Black Bolt in that strange place—lost his life in the battle.

With a heavy heart, Black Bolt returns to Earth, accompanied by the teleporting dog Lockjaw and the psychic alien child Blinky. But in his absence, the Inhumans have suffered terribly at the hands of an evil Captain America and his corrupt government. And there are some who would hold their former king accountable...

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EARTH.

THE SIGHT NEARLY
STOPS BLACK BOLT'S
HEART.



HOME.



HE HAS LIVED ON THE MOON. HE HAS
DWELLED IN DEEP SPACE AS A KING
AND AS A PRISONER. SEEN WONDERS
AND HORRORS THAT DWARF THIS
LITTLE WORLD.

BUT THIS PLANET, SO SMALL IN THE
SCHEME OF THINGS, CALLS TO
BLACK BOLT WITH ITS BLUE BEAUTY.
IT CALLS TO HIM AS NOWHERE ELSE
IN THE GALAXY CAN.

YET BLACK BOLT KNOWS TOO WELL THAT HOME ALWAYS OFFERS ITS OWN ORDEALS...

**BREEP
BREEP**

INHUMAN VESSEL!
YOU ARE APPROACHING
THE SOVEREIGN NATION OF
NEW ATTILAN. YOUR VESSEL
IS EMITTING SIGNALS
UNIQUE TO OLD INHUMAN
TECHNOLOGY. PLEASE
IDENTIFY YOUR--

B-BLACK
BOLT? HOW--
WHERE DID--

CAN...
YOU LAND
IN NEW ATTILAN,
SIR? WE NEED TO...
DISCUSS SOME
THINGS.

SHE WAS
NERVOUS,
BLACK BOLT.
ALMOST...AFRAID.
IS EVERYTHING
ALL RIGHT?

I KNOW,
I KNOW--"DON'T
WORRY, IT'S NOTHING."
WELL, I DON'T NEED TO
READ YOUR MIND TO KNOW
THAT YOU'RE NOT SURE IF
YOU BELIEVE THAT
YOURSELF.



THE CHILD IS SAVVY. RAISED ON THE HARD STREETS OF A PLANET-SIZED CITY, BLACK BOLT RESOLVES NOT TO OFFER HER FALSE PROMISES.



AND INDEED, HE IS WORRIED. ISO--DE FACTO LEADER OF HIS PEOPLE SINCE BLACK BOLT AND HIS QUEEN ABDICATED THE THRONE--IS HIDING SOMETHING FROM HIM. HE WILL LEARN WHAT SOON ENOUGH, HE SUPPOSES.



HIS OLD FRIEND LOCKJAW COULD TRANSPORT THEM INSTANTLY, BUT HAS ONLY JUST RECOVERED FROM NEAR-FATAL WOUNDS. BLACK BOLT DECIDES TO LAND THE SHIP HIMSELF.



SO WHAT'S THIS WORLD OF YOURS LIKE, BLACK BOLT? I'M GOING TO USE MY INNER EYE TO TAKE A PEEK.



I LIKE TO KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT A PLACE BEFORE I VISIT IT. IT'S HELPED ME STAY ALIVE. I DID IT EVERY TIME I VISITED A NEW BAZAAR BACK HOME.



BY THE
LADY, THERE
ARE A LOT OF
PEOPLE
HERE.

AND THEY'VE
MADE SO MANY...
THINGS.

THERE ARE
SOME **POWERFUL**
MINDS OUT THERE,
BLACK BOLT, AND THEY
KNOW WE'RE
HERE.

SOME
SCARY ONES,
TOO.

I--I THINK
I'M GOING TO
STOP NOW.

SO THIS IS WHERE YOU'RE FROM? YOUR HOME--IT'S BEAUTIFUL!

HOME. TIME PASSED SO STRANGELY IN THE PRISON THAT BLACK BOLT DOESN'T EVEN KNOW HOW LONG HE HAS BEEN AWAY. HE KNOWS ONLY THAT IT FEELS LIKE A LIFETIME.

HE HAS DREAMED A THOUSAND TIMES OF RETURNING...

FREEZE! MOVE A MUSCLE AND WE'LL BLOW YOUR #@*& HEAD OFF!

SO THIS IS WHERE YOU'RE FROM? YOUR HOME--IT'S BEAUTIFUL!

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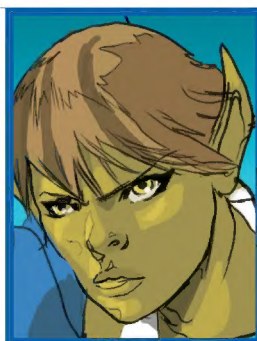
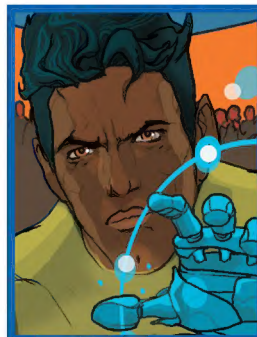
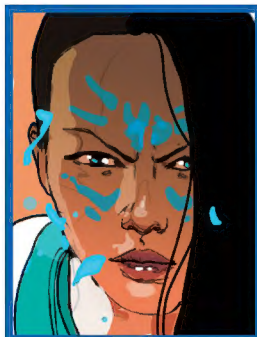
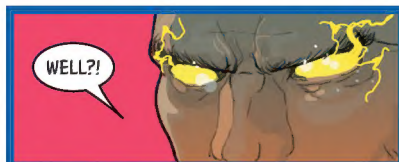
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FREEZE! MOVE A MUSCLE AND WE'LL BLOW YOUR #@*& HEAD OFF!





IT'S A TRICK!
HE'S USING HIS
POWERS TO GET IN
OUR HEADS! TAKE
HIM DOWN!



EVEN IN HIS WEAKENED STATE, BLACK BOLT
COULD KILL THEM ALL WITH EASE. BUT
SUBDUING THOSE WHO WOULD SLAY HIM
IS NOT NEARLY SO SIMPLE.



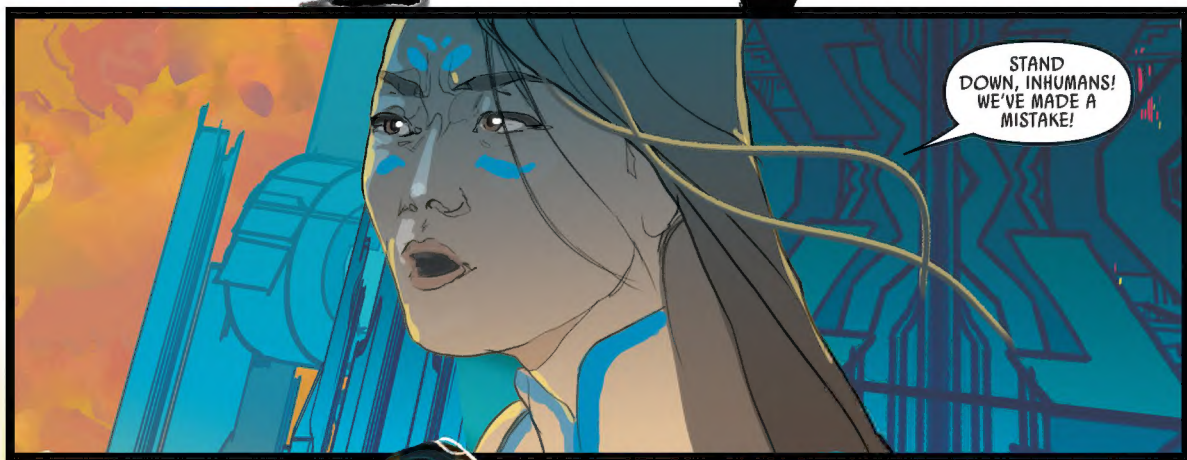
THEY ARE HIS PEOPLE. BUT BLINKY HAS BECOME
HIS FAMILY. AND TO PROTECT HER, BLACK BOLT
MUST HARM THEM.



HE'S
DROPPING
THE SHIELD! GET
READY TO
RUSH HIM!

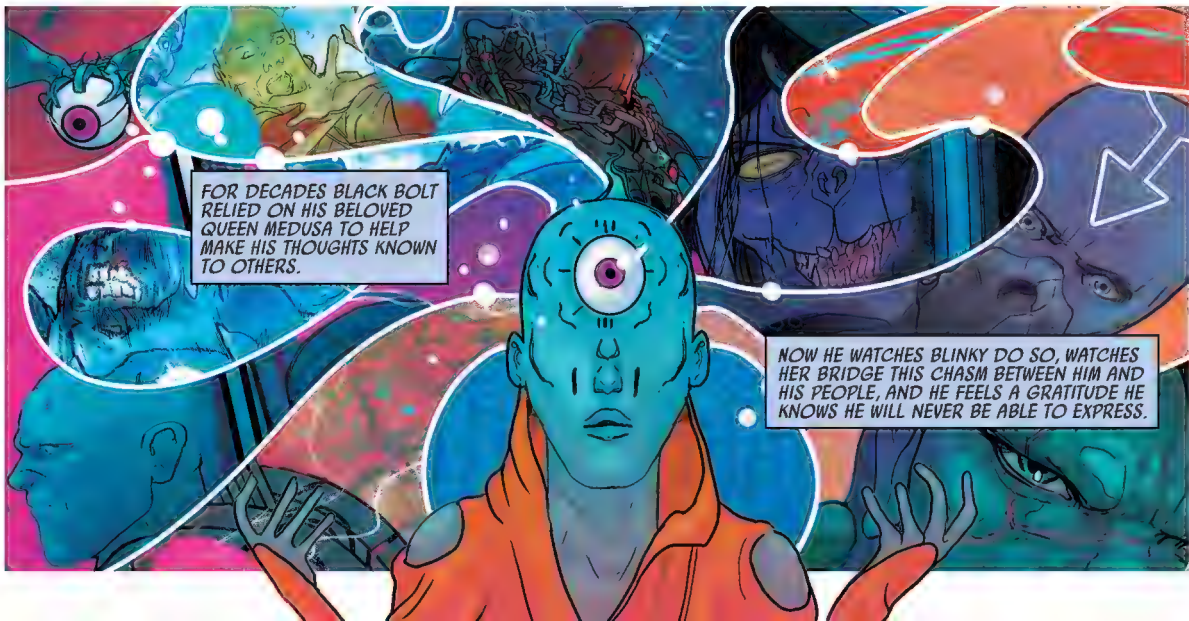
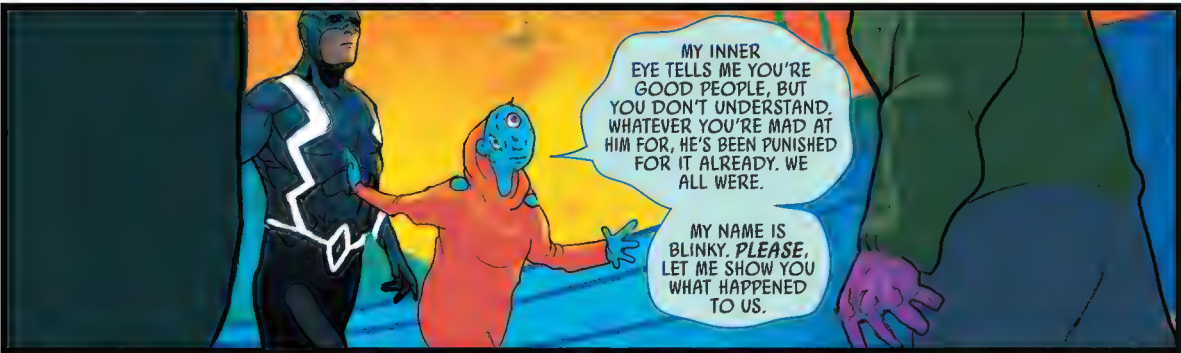
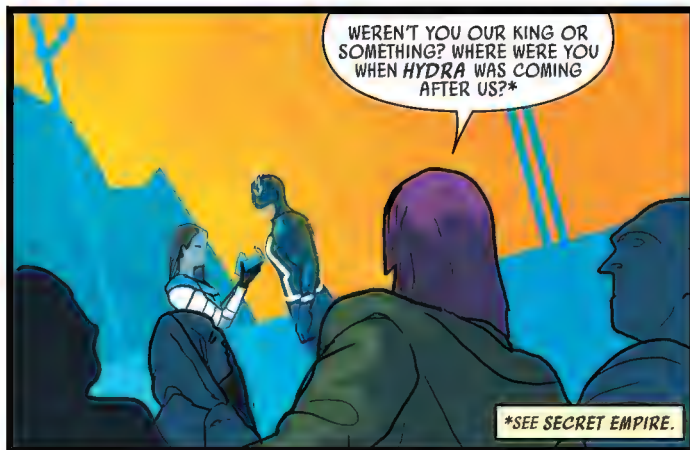


FWAUM



**MOMENTS
LATER...**







HUH?

WH-WHAT WAS THAT?

I--BLACK BOLT, I'M SO SORRY. WE HAD NO IDEA. BLINKY, WAS IT? WE...HAVE A LOT TO TALK ABOUT. LET'S GO INSIDE.

LATER...



...AND SO I'M AFRAID WE DON'T KNOW WHERE MEDUSA AND THE OTHERS ARE NOW.* I'M SORRY, BLACK BOLT. I WISH I COULD TELL YOU MORE.

*SEE ROYALS TO FIND OUT!

THERE ARE OTHER MATTERS TO CATCH UP ON, HOWEVER. THE HYDRA TAKEOVER DEVASTATED THE INHUMAN COMMUNITY, AND WE'VE ONLY BEGUN REBUILDING. ALSO, THERE ARE DISTURBING SIGNS OF ACTIVITY AMONG THE RUINS OF THE OLD INHUMAN CITY OF OROLLAN. FINALLY, MANAGEMENT OF NEW ATTILAN ITSELF IS--



AH. I'M NOT MEDUSA, SIR, BUT I DO REMEMBER YOUR "YOU CAN HANDLE THIS" LOOK. BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND. AREN'T YOU STAYING?

I'M SORRY FOR INTERRUPTING, ISO, BUT BLACK BOLT HAS A PROMISE TO KEEP. SO DO I. OUR FRIEND CRUSHER CREEL DIED SAVING OUR LIVES. NOW WE HAVE TO FIND HIS WIFE.



I SEE.

WAIT! ALL OF YOU ARE HURT. BEFORE YOU GO, YOU SHOULD LET ME SEE TO YOUR WOUNDS.

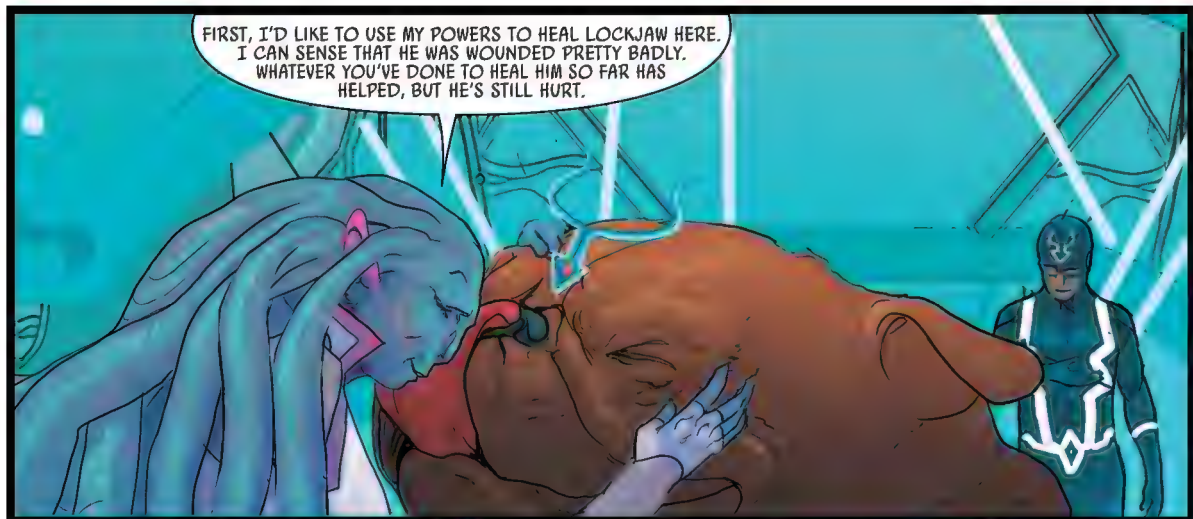
BLINKY, THIS IS PANACEA. SHE CAN SENSE WOUNDS AND ILLNESS AND USE HER POWERS TO HEAL THEM.



HELLO THERE, LOCKJAW. LONG TIME NO SEE.

WOOF!





FIRST, I'D LIKE TO USE MY POWERS TO HEAL LOCKJAW HERE. I CAN SENSE THAT HE WAS WOUNDED PRETTY BADLY. WHATEVER YOU'VE DONE TO HEAL HIM SO FAR HAS HELPED, BUT HE'S STILL HURT.



SOMEONE ZAPPED YOU PRETTY BAD, HUH? THIS'LL MAKE YOU FEEL ALL BETTER.

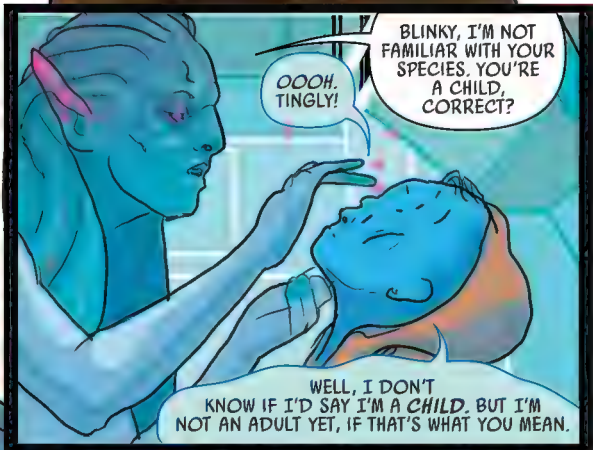


WOOF!

THERE YOU GO!



YOUR NEW FRIEND AS WELL? OF COURSE.



BLINKY, I'M NOT FAMILIAR WITH YOUR SPECIES. YOU'RE A CHILD, CORRECT?

OOOH. TINGLY!

WELL, I DON'T KNOW IF I'D SAY I'M A CHILD. BUT I'M NOT AN ADULT YET, IF THAT'S WHAT YOU MEAN.



THAT'S ODD. FOR A MOMENT THERE, SOME OF YOUR CELLS FELT MUCH... OLDER.

OLDER?

IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN. IT'S PROBABLY NOTHING, DON'T LET ME WORRY YOU.



THE ONE WHO TRULY NEEDS HEALING, HOWEVER... IS YOU, BLACK BOLT.



BLACK BOLT RECOILS. THESE NEW INHUMANS WERE BORN FROM TERRIGEN MISTS BLACK BOLT UNLEASHED UPON THE WORLD. SOME PART OF HIM STILL THINKS OF THEM AS HIS CHILDREN.

ONE CARES FOR ONE'S CHILDREN, NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND.



SIR, I CAN SENSE THAT YOU'VE BEEN WEAKENED BY WHAT YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH. YOUR OTHER POWERS REMAIN, BUT YOUR VOICE IS GONE. I MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP.



BLACK BOLT WONDERS FOR A MOMENT WHETHER IT MIGHT NOT BE WISER TO REFUSE PANACEA'S OFFER. TO FOREVER LEAVE BEHIND THE TERRIBLE CURSE OF HIS DEVASTATING VOICE.

BUT IT IS PART OF HIM. AND HE FEELS ITS ABSENCE.

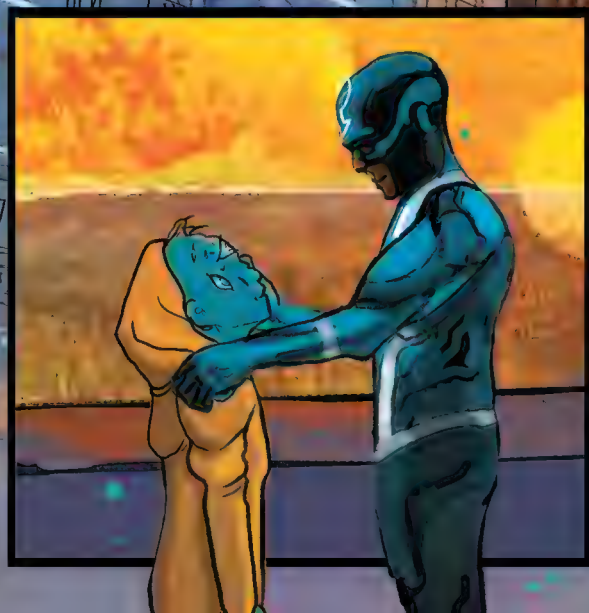
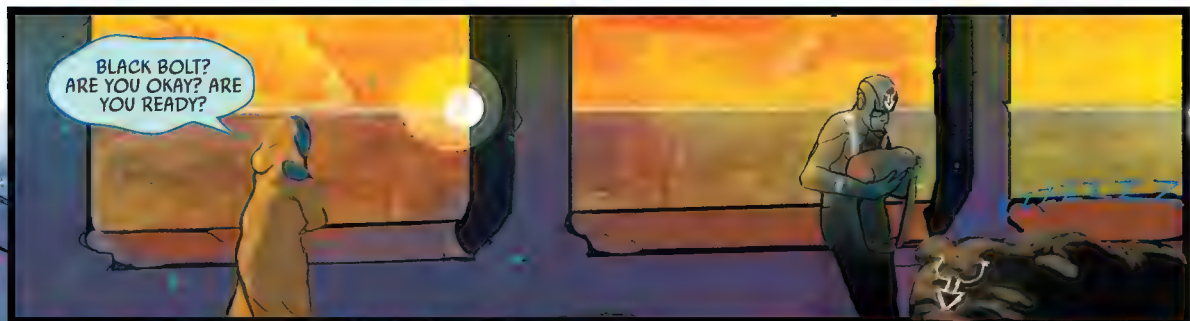
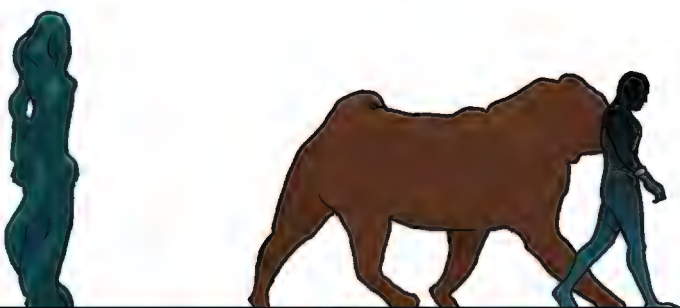
HE NODS HIS ASSENT.



YOU'RE STILL WOUNDED, TOO, SIR. OR MAYBE... SCARRED?



YOUR POWER ISN'T GONE, IT'S... I DON'T KNOW HOW TO DESCRIBE IT. YOUR BODY IS HURT, YES, BUT IT'S REALLY YOUR MIND THAT--





NOT A
VERY NICE WAY
TO TREAT YOUR
SON.

YOU DO
REMEMBER ME,
RIGHT, FATHER?
AHURA?

YOU'RE
WONDERING HOW
I KNEW YOU WERE HERE?
YOU LANDED IN AN ANCIENT
INHUMAN SPACESHIP THE SIZE
OF A CITY BLOCK, FATHER.
BUT THEN, YOU DON'T
REALLY DO *SUBTLE*,
DO YOU?

WHO THE
HELL IS THIS, BY
THE WAY?

WOW, BLACK
BOLT, THIS IS YOUR
SON? HI! I'M BLINKY!
YOUR DAD'S THE BEST! HE
SAVED MY LIFE! AND HE SAID
I COULD COME LIVE HERE
ON EARTH! DID I
MENTION THAT--

SERIOUSLY?

I--

ARE
YOU KIDDING
ME?

WHAT THE HELL
IS THIS? YOU WENT TO
SPACE AND DECIDED TO
ADOPT SOME *STAR WARS*
REJECT? SUDDENLY YOU
HAVE TIME TO BE A
FATHER? WHEN THE
HELL DID--





FATHER, I...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S
HAPPENED TO YOU, BUT I--
I CAN'T HANDLE THIS
RIGHT NOW.



I JUST
CAN'T.



THE BRONX.

FWAUM

THAT WAY? OKAY, I'M READY. I GUESS SHE'S GOING TO BE SO SAD, BLACK BOLT.

DID YOU SEE THAT?

YOUNGBLOOD, I'VE SEEN A LOT OF THINGS FROM THIS STOOP. AVENGERS. ALIENS. SUPER VILLAINS. YOU KNOW WHAT STAYS THE SAME?

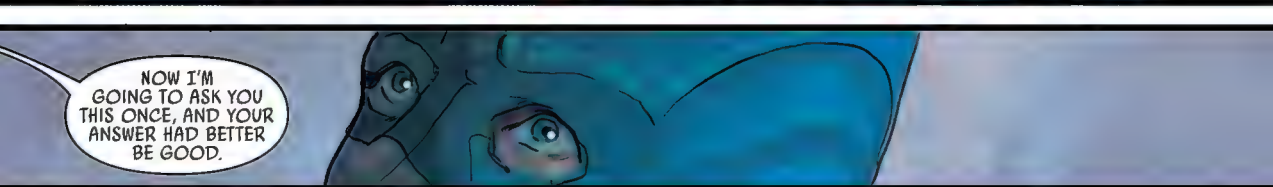
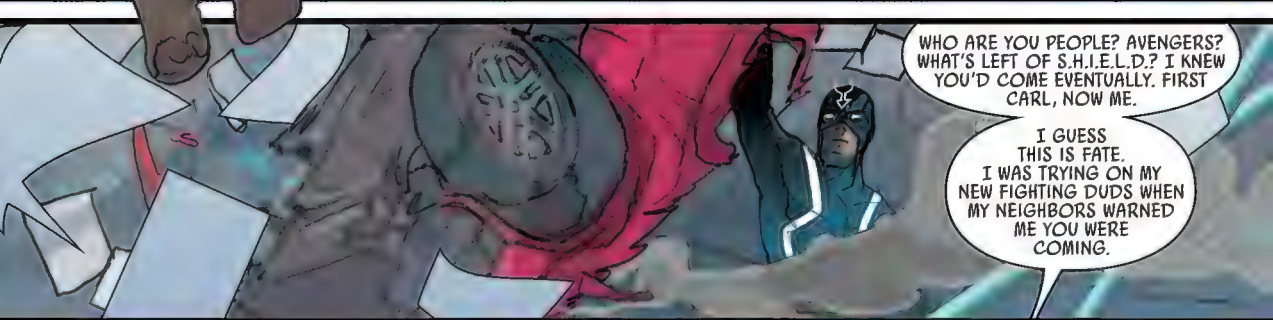
WHAT'S THAT?

I KEEP WINNING. NOW PAY ATTENTION TO THE GAME.

MOMENT/ LATER...

I GUESS THIS IS IT.

I HOPE CRUSHER'S WIFE--





WHAT THE
&@# \$ HAVE YOU
DONE WITH MY
HUSBAND?

TO BE CONTINUED...

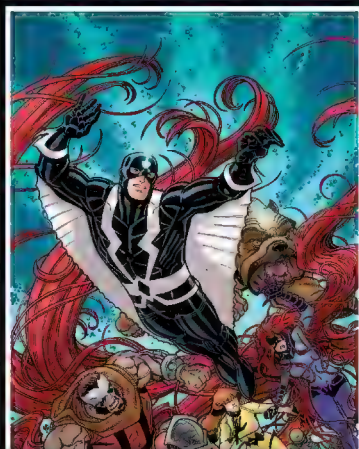
NEXT:

BLACK BOLT

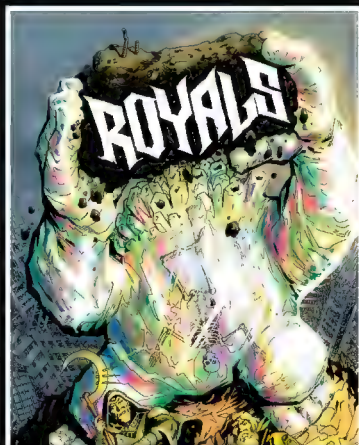
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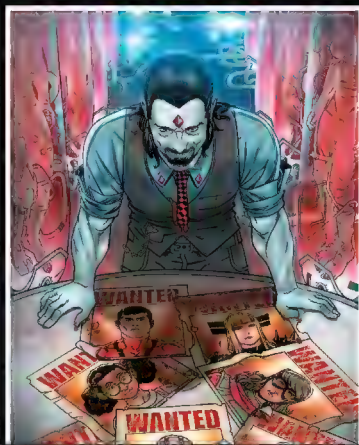
FOR MORE
INHUMANS,
CHECK OUT:



INHUMANS: ONCE AND FUTURE KINGS #5



ROYALS #12



**SECRET WARRIORS
#10**

OF COURSE, HIS REAL NAME IS
BLACKAGAR BOLTAGON.

THE CHILD OF TWO OF
ATTILAN'S TOP MINDS.

THE CHILD OF ATTILAN'S
KING AND QUEEN.

HE WAS EXPOSED TO
TERRIGEN BEFORE
HE WAS BORN. AND
AS RESULT...

...HE WAS GIVEN POWERS BEYOND
EXPECTATION. COSMIC AWARENESS
AND ENERGY-MANIPULATING ABILITIES
THAT MANIFESTED IN HIS VOICE.

EVEN A WHISPER
HELD DESTRUCTIVE
POWER.

HE WAS KEPT IN A SOUNDPROOF
ROOM, WHERE HIS FATHER TAUGHT
HIM TO CONTROL HIS ABILITIES.

HE HELD HIS POWER IN CHECK UNTIL HIS
SCHEMING BROTHER, MAXIMUS, WORKING
ALONGSIDE THE KREE, HATCHED A PLAN
TO UPEND LIFE IN ATTILAN.

BLACKAGAR USED HIS POWERS TO
SAVE HIS HOME, BUT THE SHIP HE
DESTROYED CRASHED INTO THE CITY,
KILLING HIS PARENTS, RESULTING IN
BLACKAGAR BECOMING...



...KING OF THE INHUMANS.

FOR YEARS, THE SILENT KING KEPT THE PEACE.

AND HIS SILENCE.

UNTIL....



...HIS VOICE DETONATED THE TERRIGEN BOMB, DEFEATING THANOS, BUT DESTROYING ATTILAN IN THE PROCESS. HIS KINGDOM WAS GONE...

...BUT THE TERRIGEN MIST SPREAD OVER EARTH, CREATING A NEW GENERATION OF INHUMANS. A NEW GENERATION OF HEROES.

AND THEN, THE KING WITHOUT A THRONE BECAME...



...A PRISONER.

MAXIMUS HAD LONG SOUGHT REVENGE AGAINST HIS BROTHER.

FACING IMPRISONMENT FOR HIS MYRIAD CRIMES, HE FINALLY HAD HIS CHANCE.

MAXIMUS USED HIS PSYCHIC ABILITIES TO HAVE BLACKAGAR SENT IN HIS PLACE.



BLACKAGAR EVENTUALLY WON BACK HIS FREEDOM, AND NOW HE SEEKS TO HELP HIS PEOPLE.

FOR WHETHER HE LIKES IT OR NOT, HE IS KING OF THE INHUMANS.

HE IS...

...BLACK BOLT!



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• Tour •
THE SEVEN SEAS

With

**BLACK MANTA
EMPIRE**



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